



## Inside This Issue

- 2-3 - COVID Operational Changes
- 3 - COVID-19 Vaccination Info
- 3 - Clark Residents: Scholarship Opportunities
- 3 - VITA Tax Assistance
- 3 - Head Start Applications
- 4 - Recipe: Polenta & Veggies
- 4 - \$10 Bike Helmets for Kids
- 4 - DES Emergency Rental Assistance Program
- 5 - STEAM: Salt Crystal Gardens
- 5 - Summer CCC for Free!
- 5 - Library Bookmark Contest

## Contact Us

### CFHA Maintenance

(928) 213-2731

### East Flagstaff Housing

Jayne Wittman, Housing Spec.

Email: [jwittman@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:jwittman@flagstaffaz.gov)

Phone: (928) 213-2735

Fax: (928) 526-3734

Hours: M-F from 8am - 5pm

### Flagstaff Housing West

Patricia Sauers, Housing Spec.

Email: [psauers@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:psauers@flagstaffaz.gov)

Phone: (928) 779-1887

Fax: (928) 779-5801

Hours: M-F from 8am - 5pm  
(closed 12pm - 1pm)

### Clark Homes

Amanda Thomas, Housing Spec.

Email: [athomas@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:athomas@flagstaffaz.gov)

Phone: (928) 779-1247

Fax: (928) 779-2175

Hours: M-Th from 8am - 6pm  
(closed 12pm - 1pm)  
& Fri 8am - 12pm

General Phone: (928) 213-2730

## Housing Survey Attached

You are encouraged to fill out and submit the attached City of Flagstaff Housing Survey. Submit the completed survey to your housing specialist's office or mail to Leah Bloom, 3481 N Fanning Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86004. The survey is also available at

[surveymonkey.com/r/FlgHsg21](https://surveymonkey.com/r/FlgHsg21).

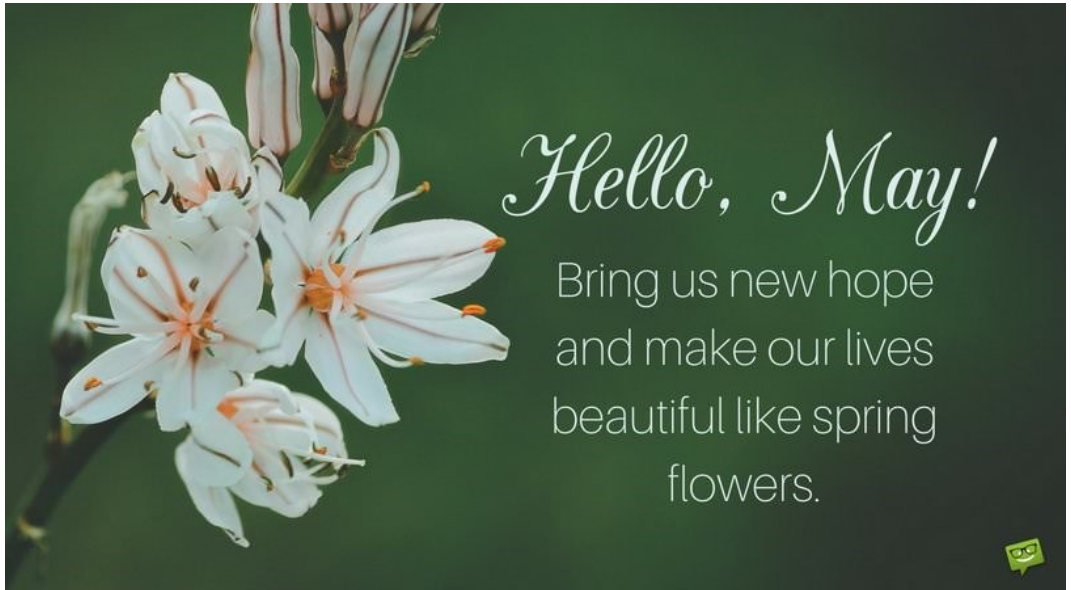
As part of the Declaration of Housing Crisis on 12/10/2020, the City of Flagstaff is preparing a 10 Year Strategic Housing Plan to address housing needs across our community. Your response will inform discussion in working groups and help guide the final plan. Thank you for your participation! More info at [flagstaff.az.gov/4553](https://flagstaff.az.gov/4553).

## Ken Bobbett Memorial

As many of you know Clark Homes recently lost our resident Master Gardner, Ken Bobbett. Ken was known by many for the work he put into the grounds at Clark Homes that resulted in beauty for all.

Janina Marchbanks will be leading a memorial time in honor of Ken on **Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 11:00 am on the main front lawn at Clark Homes**. All Clark Homes Residents are invited to attend to share their memories of Ken. Chairs will be setup observing social distancing practices, and all attendees are requested to wear face masks. See you then.

*Kurt Aldinger*



## COVID-19 Operational Changes *(Continues on page 3)*

### CFHA Information

**Front Lobbies of all offices are currently closed.** We cannot permit anyone in the office who does not have a scheduled appointment but we will schedule appointments where required for residents. Staff are still in the office to serve residents. If you need to speak to your specialist or other staff, please call (see front page for contact details). Rent payments will not be accepted at any of our front desks, but a secure drop box has been installed at each office. **Please make sure your name and address are clear on your rent payments and keep your money order receipts for your records. Housing Authority receipts will be mailed if there is a credit or a balance is due.**

CFHA has been waiving late fees, accepting partial payments, entering into repayment agreements, has not counted late payments toward the three (3) late payment policy, and has not pursued non-payment terminations since April 2020. Please understand that we have not been legally obligated to do this since the CARES Act Moratorium expired on July 27, 2020. The CDC order requires none of this. **Additionally, all of these regulations require the rent to be paid, and all other terms of the lease to be followed. There is no "rent forgiveness."** At an appropriate time, the approved rent collection policy will be reinstated. Please do not allow rent to build up to a point where it will not be possible for it to be paid, which will result in termination of tenancy. If your income has gone down please contact your specialist to discuss a rent adjustment. If you are two or more months behind or if you will have trouble paying any past due amount, please contact your specialist to make an arrangement to repay the past due amount in installments.

**Please be aware that AZ DES is now offering rental and utility assistance.** CFHA has already registered as a Landlord. You may apply for the assistance at [DES Emergency Rental Assistance Program \(era.azdes.gov\)](https://era.azdes.gov). If you need assistance with this process please contact Kurt Aldinger at [kaldinger@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:kaldinger@flagstaffaz.gov) or **(928) 213-2736**.

### Maintenance Work Orders

Please continue to call in all work orders to **213-2731**. It is not necessary to call more than once. **All routine Work Orders are now done by appointment only, so please be sure to include a call back number in your message.** Please also be aware that no work orders will be performed when there are minors who are home with no adult present.

If anyone in your home is ill or has been exposed to COVID-19 please wait to report non-health or safety conditions until everyone is well. When our Maintenance professionals are in your home, **make sure that nobody is in the same room while they are working and windows are open.** If they are unsure that it is safe to enter the home they may check with Management for their own safety.

We are unable to pick up items from the curb. To keep our developments neat, please place bulky items on the curb the day before the bulky item pickup noted on the calendar. For your own safety please do not disturb items left at the curb nor those in dumpsters.

### Change Reporting

**Effective January 1, 2021 Flagstaff's minimum wage increased to \$15 per hour.** All households in all of our programs are required to report if their income increases by more than \$200 per month. Anyone who was made minimum wage and works more than 24 hours per week has had such an increase. If you make minimum wage, work more than 24 hours per week and have not had rent redetermined in 2021 you should contact your specialist to discuss.

We will be processing rent reductions with an expedited process to insure that rents remain appropriate and affordable. When reporting your change, please provide sufficient information for your specialist to be able to determine your income. We are currently waiving face-to-face appointments, but it is very important that you return all documents with proper signatures to the office. When we have received your signed documents we will sign and return copies to you through the mail.

**Clark Homes Neighborhood Network and the SHAC are currently closed and activities suspended.**

### Annual Recertifications

**Annual recertifications will be performed by mail.** The Flagstaff Police Department is again running background checks. If you are unable to provide certain verifications (other than income) with your recertification packet please include a note which indicates this. When we receive your packet with sufficient information to determine rent, a Family Worksheet and Lease Addendum will be sent for your signature. Please return the signed paperwork promptly. When received your specialist will sign the paperwork and send you a copy. An office

## Continued from Page 2

appointment will be required when our lobby has reopened so that you may provide the record check, any missing documentation, and review the results of the recertification.

### Community Service

Please remember that we will be reviewing for Community Service Compliance on all Annual Recertifications completed after June 30, 2021. This will apply to all household members determined non-exempt after April 1, 2020.

### Annual Inspections

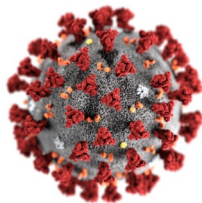
**To protect the health of our Residents and Staff all Annual Inspections for Public Housing will be conducted in a modified fashion when routine preventative maintenance is being performed on your home.** Please be sure to report maintenance needs as usual. Special Inspections may still be done if the need arises. Annual Inspections at Clark Homes are postponed until further notice. Please be aware that HUD intends to begin scheduling REAC Inspections. If one of our developments is scheduled for this the inspection must take place.

Lastly, Clark Homes and Public Housing newsletter will be combined for the time being.

## COVID-19 Vaccinations

Anyone who is 16 years of age or older is now eligible to schedule your COVID-19 vaccination. For more information:

- [\(928\) 679-7300](tel:9286797300) - Coconino County COVID-19 Information Line.
- [Coconino.az.gov/2547](https://coconino.az.gov/2547) - Coconino County COVID-19 Vaccine Information Page.
- [Coconino.az.gov/2580](https://coconino.az.gov/2580) - Includes a list of vaccination locations by city. This information is also available on the Information Line listed above.
- [CDC.gov/vaccines/covid-19](https://cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19) - The CDC is a reliable resource for information on COVID-19 and the various related vaccines.



## Attention Clark Homes Residents

### **Dan Grady Scholarship Deadline Extended**

The new deadline is May 28. Applications available at [ahma-psw.org/foundation-2](https://ahma-psw.org/foundation-2) or call Amanda Thomas, Clark Homes Housing Specialist. This scholarship is for those expected to be in an accredited college or trade/vocational school for Fall of 2021.

### **NAHMA Educational Foundation Scholarship**

Deadline is May 15, 7:00 pm Arizona Time. For more information, go to [nahma.communityforce.com](https://nahma.communityforce.com). This scholarship serves students pursuing higher education at an accredited college, community college, university, or trade/professional school or institute.



### **VITA Tax Assistance**

#### ***Extended Tax Deadline is May 17, 2021.***

Northland Free Tax Assistance | (928) 221-4977

[northlandfreetaxassistance@gmail.com](mailto:northlandfreetaxassistance@gmail.com)

[northlandfreetaxassistance.weebly.com](https://northlandfreetaxassistance.weebly.com)

Due to demand, Northland Free Tax Assistance is only handling a limited number of drop-offs. Visit the website for full instructions. You can also pickup a print out of the tax packet at the Siler or Clark offices.

### **Apply for NACOG Head Start**

Now is the time to apply for Head Start & Early Head Start for your children age five and under! You can do so online at [nacog.org/departments/head-start/page/apply-now.html](https://nacog.org/departments/head-start/page/apply-now.html) or request a print application by calling [\(928\) 774-9504 ex 1112](tel:9287749504) and leaving your name, address, and phone number.

If anyone in your immediate family has applied or was enrolled during the 2020-2021 program year, please complete the paper application, not the online application.

Applicants will be asked for 2020 Form 1040 or 2020 W-2 Forms, immunization records, and proof of age plus TANF and SSI if awarded.

## Recipe: Polenta & Roasted Veggies

Polenta, or corn grits, is a versatile grain that brings a lot of color and substance to a plate! Pair with roasted veggies and parmesan for this spring dish!



### Ingredients

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 bell peppers       | 1 pint cherry tomatoes  |
| 1 small eggplant     | 1/2 red onion           |
| 2 medium zucchini    | Salt to taste           |
| 2 Tbsp olive oil     | 1/2 tsp chili flakes    |
| 2 cloves garlic      | 1 Tbsp balsamic vinegar |
| 1 tsp dried rosemary | 1-2 tsp salt            |
| 1 cup polenta, dry   | 4 Tbsp butter           |
| 1/2 cup parmesan     |                         |

### Directions

1. Chop peppers into 1/2" strips, eggplant into 1" cubes, tomatoes in half, zucchini in 1/2" cubes, dice the onion and finely chop the garlic.
2. Preheat oven to 425 F.
3. Combine peppers, eggplant, tomatoes, zucchini, onion, olive oil, and 1/2 tsp salt on a large baking sheet. Roast for 20-25 minutes, until softened and turning brown.
4. Meanwhile, bring 4 cups of water to boil in a sauce pan. Stir in 1 tsp salt. Sprinkle polenta into the pan while whisking. Once polenta has been added, turn heat to a low simmer, cover, and cook for 25-30 minutes, stirring from the bottom occasionally to prevent sticking. It should be thick, fluffy, and pulls away from the side of the pan.
5. When vegetables have begun to brown, remove them from oven and stir in garlic, chili flakes, rosemary, and balsamic vinegar.
6. When the polenta is done, remove from heat, stir in cheese, butter, and additional salt and pepper to taste.
7. Serve polenta in a bowl and top with vegetables. Enjoy!

If the polenta was a hit, let us know how else you use it at your table at [housing@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:housing@flagstaffaz.gov)!

Source & Photo: [familystylefood.com/roasted-vegetables-parmesan-polenta](http://familystylefood.com/roasted-vegetables-parmesan-polenta)

Who needs a new bike helmet?

\$10



ALL HELMETS

ORDER ONLINE!

[HTTP://BIT.LY/BUY-BIKE-HELMET](http://bit.ly/buy-bike-helmet)

- \* Many sizes to choose from...
- \* Brought to you by Safe Kids Coconino County & Flagstaff Biking Organization
- \* Remember... all children under 18 must wear helmets when riding... it's the law!



flagstaff  
BIKING  
.org

#BIKEMONTH

MAY 1-31

FLAGSTAFF BIKE MONTH

## DES Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Due to COVID-19, the federal Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2021 created rent and utility assistance for Arizona renters. Flagstaff Housing Authority has registered as a landlord. Application information, including a tutorial video, can be found at [des.az.gov/ERAP](http://des.az.gov/ERAP) or call the Emergency Rental Assistance Program hotline at **1-833-912-0878**. The call center is available 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



## STEAM Corner: Crystal Gardens!

Grow a crystal garden with Epsom salts!

### What you'll need:

Epsom salt	Clean glass jars
Food coloring (optional)	Hot Tap Water
Clear measuring cup	Spoon
Pebble or sand	Microwave (optional)

### What You'll Do

- 1) Measure 1 cup of Epsom salts to the jar.
- 2) Measure 1 cup of water and heat in the microwave for 30-45 seconds.
- 3) Add a dash of food coloring and stir.
- 4) Combine water with salt in the jar. Stir for at one to two minutes to dissolve the salt; some salt may remain at the base of the jar.
- 5) Drop in a pebble or a few grains of sand. This gives the crystals something grow from.
- 6) Repeat for each jar, using various colors.
- 7) Allow jars to cool in the back of the refrigerator overnight in the fridge. Crystals may form in as little as 3 hours, but overnight is best!
- 8) Reveal! Carefully pour out extra liquid, though you can leave some at the bottom of the jar. Crystals will be hard to see in dyed water, but visible in clear water.
- 9) If needed, clear the outer glass of extra salt for a clearer view of the beautiful crystal garden!
  - With a magnifying glass, young scientists can examine the salt crystal structure under more detail. What do these look like?
  - The crystals can grow even longer in the fridge for even more impressive results!
  - You can preserve your crystal garden by removing the water. However, water at room temperature will deteriorate the crystals.

Source: [babbledabble.com/science-for-kids-crystal-garden](http://babbledabble.com/science-for-kids-crystal-garden)



## Gear Up with CCC:

### Grad'g Class of 2021 High Schoolers

Attend CCC for **free** this summer! (Made possible with COVID-19 funding.) Register today for the summer term, Monday, June 7 to Thursday July 29.

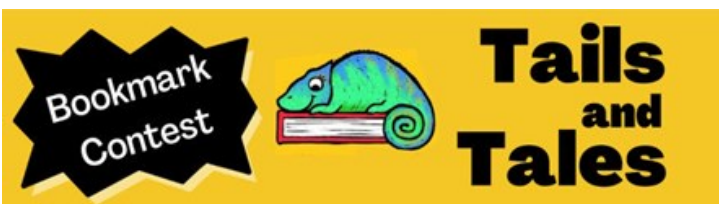
Not a Coconino County 2021 high school graduate? You are eligible for stimulus money when you take

classes at CCC this summer. Learn more at [coconino.edu/apply-now](http://coconino.edu/apply-now).



### Notice: Springtime Safety

With students returning to school and spring in the air, be sure to use and encourage the use of crosswalks, checking both ways for cars, observing speed signs, and respecting freshly growing grass.



Contest Rules: Design a bookmark based on the 2021 Summer reading Challenge theme, "Tails & Tales." The public library will print and share the winning bookmarks!

Your artwork must be original and two dimensional. You can use any medium you want: crayons and markers to a computer. Photography is also acceptable, as long as it's your own. Only one entry per person.

Deadline May 31, 2021, age categories are birth to 5 years, 6-11 years, and 12-17 years.





See [flagstaffpubliclibrary.org/SRC2021BookmarkContest.pdf](http://flagstaffpubliclibrary.org/SRC2021BookmarkContest.pdf) for the full flyer and form.

## Your Story Could be Featured in Next Month's Newsletter!

If you have news of accomplishments, original artwork, poetry, community group news, recipes, or if you just want to see something specific on the next newsletter, we want to hear from you! Drop off a letter at the Siler Homes office or send an email to [caleb.alexander@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:caleb.alexander@flagstaffaz.gov).

Bulk trash pickup should be placed curbside by 6:00 am on the Monday of your collection week.

# May 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b><u>Trash Pickup</u></b> Clark Homes, Crestview, and Cedar	<b><u>Trash Pickup</u></b> All Sunnyside Scattered Sites  <b><u>Recycling Pickup</u></b> Brannen and Verde	<b><u>Trash Pickup</u></b> Siler, Brannen, Steves, Alta Vista, Lockett, and Verde	<b><u>Recycling Pickup</u></b> Clark Homes, Cedar, and Crestview	<b><u>Recycling Pickup</u></b> Siler, Lockett, Alta Vista, Steves, and all Sunnyside Scattered Sites
3 <b><u>Public Housing Rent Due</u></b> <b><u>Clark Homes Rent Due</u></b>	4 Flagstaff Bike Month! 	5	6 <b><u>Clark Homes Late Rent Reminders Mailed</u></b>	7
10 <b><u>LIPH Late Rent Reminders Mailed</u></b>	11 <b><u>&lt; Bulky Trash Pickup:</u></b> Clark Homes, Crestview, & Cedar	12	13 	14 <b><u>Last day to turn in Public Housing Recert. Packets for August by 8am</u></b>
17 <b>Federal Taxes, Extended Deadline:</b> Monday, May 17	18 <b><u>&lt; Bulky Trash Pickup:</u></b> Siler, Greenlaw, & Scattered Sites	19 	20	21
24 	25 <b><u>Last day to report changes to insure rent decrease</u></b>	26	27	28 <b><u>Last day to turn in Clark Recert Packets</u></b>
31 <b><u>Memorial Day: All City Offices Closed</u></b> <b><u>Bulky Trash Pickup:</u></b> Brannen & Verde	June 1 <b><u>Public Housing Rent Due</u></b>  <b><u>Clark Homes Rent Due</u></b>	June 2	June 3	June 4 